



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Selectmen's Minutes 08-11-2008

**TOWN OF ARLINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, August 11, 2008
 7:15 p.m.

Present: Ms. Rowe, Chair, Mr. Hurd, Vice Chair, Mr. Greeley, Mrs. Mahon, and Ms. LaCourt.
 Also present: Mr. Sullivan, Ms. Rice, and Mrs. Krepelka.

Ms. Rowe opened the meeting with the following statement regarding the recent resignation of Superintendent Nate Levenson:

The Board of Selectmen wants to reassure the parents of children in our public school, the students themselves, and the town's people that our school system is sound and strong. While it is unfortunate that the superintendent has resigned, the school system is still full of tremendous teachers, principals and people running our schools.

Five out of seven (7) of our elementary schools have been rebuilt, and we are looking at ways to complete the needed improvements of the other two elementary schools. We are beginning to look carefully at what physical improvements are needed at the High School. The learning that our children need will be available in the first week of September.

The Board of Selectmen has offered whatever help our colleagues on the School Committee need, whether it is the able help of Juliana Rice, Town Counsel, or the able financial heads of the Finance Committee's chair, Alan Tosti or Charlie Foskett. The future direction and leadership of our schools is in the hands of the School Committee but the Board of Selectmen stand ready to assist them when asked. Everyone in the Town wants the next leader of the schools to be strong, educationally visionary, fiscally responsible, and a healer.

FOR APPROVAL

1. **CONSENT AGENDA (one vote required for approval of all items)**

a. **Minutes of Meetings:** May 21, 2008; July 14, 2008

Mrs. Mahon moved approval of the May 21, 2008 Minutes. SO VOTED (5-0)

Mrs. Mahon moved approval of the July 14, 2008 Minutes SO VOTED (4-0)

Mr. Hurd abstained

b. **Contractor/Drain Layer Renewal**

Carroll Paving Company, 88 Whitman Street, Malden, MA

c. **Request: Change of Hours RIO Brazilian BBQ**

Jaspal Pabla, Owner

Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

2. **For Approval: Relaxed Parking Regulations 10/3 for eBUSINESS Symposium**

Michèle M. Meagher, Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Meagher stated she expects over 200 small business owners to attend the one day eSymposium event which will include a reception at the end of the symposium. The program is tailored for small businesses and entrepreneurs to enhance skills and assist

in achieving business goals faster and boost their bottom-line in a challenging economic environment.
 Ms. LaCourt moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

3. For Approval: Borrowing MWRA Sewer Loan \$655,000.00

Stephen Gilligan, Treasurer

The Board unanimously voted the approval of the sale of the \$655,000 Water Bond of the Town dated August 21, 2008, to the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority, as recommended by the Town Treasurer. The bond shall be payable without interest on August 15 of the years and in the principal amounts as follows:

Year	Installment	Year	Installment
2009	\$65,500.	2014	\$65,000.
2010	65,500.	2015	65,500.
2011	65,500.	2016	65,500.
2012	65,500.	2017	65,500
2013	65,500.	2018	65,500.

Ms. LaCourt moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

CITIZENS OPEN FORUM

No matters were presented for consideration of the Board.

LICENSES & PERMITS

5. Request: Hanging of Banners in Arlington Center

Maryellen Loud, Library Director

This is the sixth year that the Robbins Library is sponsoring a Community Read.

This year's title is the novel, Digging to America, by Ann Tyler. The Library will hang banners (Arlington Reads Together) in Arlington Center to promote this program

Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

TRAFFIC RULES & ORDERS/OTHER BUSINESS

6. Discussion: Transportation Advisory Committee

Edward Starr, Chair

a) Phase 1a Pedestrian Safety Improvements at Peirce School

Elisabeth Carr-Jones, TAC Member

Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

b) Crosswalk at Harlow Street/Massachusetts Avenue

Scott Smith, TAC Member

Mr. Greeley moved receipt of recommendation. SO VOTED (5-0)

7. Request: Residential Handicap Parking@ 31 Coleman Road

Frances E. Smith

Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

8. Request: Residential Handicap Parking @ 54 Thorndike Street

Lorraine Bennett

Mr. Hurd moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

9. Request: Placement of Stop Sign at Intersection of Scituate Street and Longfellow Road

William Bannon via Web QA

Lieutenant Paul Conroy, Arlington Police Department recommended that a Stop Sign be placed at this intersection.

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

10. Request: For Arlington/Lexington United for Justice with PeaceWelcoming Massachusetts Sub-Committee

Susan Lees, Barbara Boltz

The Board of Selectmen agreed to draft a Resolution in support of the Welcoming Massachusetts initiative, which is a statewide immigrants rights' initiative.

Ms. LaCourt moved approval to endorse the pledge, but draft our own Resolution.

SO VOTED (5-0)

Correspondence Received

Alexander J. Salipante, Chair Response to "Corbett Square" Request Be Rec'd
 Public Memorials Committee

Mr. Dennis Corbett, nephew of the Corbett brothers who served in the military during World War II and Korea, appeared before the Board to thank the Public Memorials Committee and Board of Selectmen for their input in making this memorial a reality.

Charles and Janet Bryant Off Leash Dogs at Robbins Farm Be Rec'd
 Heather Bryant McKenney
 78 Grandview Road

Mr. and Mrs. Bryant and Mr. Mikkelsen appeared before the Board regarding their concerns as a result of the Green Dog Initiative. Robbins Farm has become a playground for off leash dogs, especially behind their homes and the upper area of Hawthorne Avenue. They stated that the Dog Officer has visited the park on numerous occasions and unfortunately the owners of these dogs have complete disrespect for the leash law and the Dog Officer. They feel the Town needs to address this problem before a child or an adult gets seriously hurt. Mr. Bryant presented Mrs. Krepelka with several photos that he had taken of loose dogs and owners standing watching dogs run, etc.

The Board asked Mr. Sullivan to ask the Police Department and the Animal Control Officer to increase patrol in the area and to enforce the leash law when it is necessary. Ms. Rowe assured Mr. and Mrs. Bryant and Mr. Mikkelsen that the leash law is in effect and the Green Dog Program has gotten people talking to each other. Ms. Rowe stated that most dog owners are reasonable people. Ms. Rowe stated that the neighbors would be notified of the next meeting

On Green Dog and, in the meantime, please call the Animal Control Officer if the problem continues.

Kate and Chad Mikkelsen Off Leash Dogs at Robbins Farm Be Rec'd
 82 Grandview Road

David Levy Affordable Housing, 2 new units Be Rec'd
 Housing Corporation

Mrs. Mahon moved receipt of correspondence. SO VOTED (5-0)

Executive Session

Ms. Juliana Rice, Town Counsel, requested that the Board convene in Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation where an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's litigating position.

Mrs. Mahon moved to convene into Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. for the above purpose

Roll Call:

Mrs. Rowe: yes

Mr. Hurd: yes

Ms. LaCourt: yes

Mrs. Mahon: yes

Mr. Greeley: yes

Mrs. Mahon moved to adjourn executive session at 9:00 p.m. and reconvene in open session.

Roll Call:

Ms. Rowe: yes
Mr. Hurd: yes
Ms. LaCourt: yes
Mrs. Mahon yes
Mr. Greeley yes

Mr. Greeley moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

SO VOTED (5-0)

A true record: Attest:

Marie A. Krepelka
Board Administrator